

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A video display apparatus, comprising:
 - a display unit operable to display video;
 - a storage unit operable to sequentially update and temporarily store video data of the video being displayed on the display unit;
 - a read/write unit operable to write the video data stored in the storage unit into an external storage medium according to a first external operation, and to read the video data from the external storage medium according to a second external operation; and
 - a display control unit operable to display video on a screen of the display unit based on the video data read from the external storage medium by the read/write unit.
2. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the external storage medium is of a type that may be rewritten with data a fewer number of times than the storage unit.
3. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the external storage medium is a detachable external memory and information read out from the external memory other than the video data is displayed on the screen of the display unit.
4. The video display apparatus according to

claim 3, wherein the information read out from the external memory includes information selected from the group consisting of information corresponding to a free storage capacity of the external memory and information corresponding to a readout position of the video data to be read from the external memory according to the second external operation.

5. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the read/write unit is operable to compress the video data with a prescribed compression format and to store the compressed video data in the storage unit.

6. The video display apparatus according to claim 5, wherein the read/write unit is operable to sequentially update and compress the video data, and to temporarily store the video data.

7. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the display control unit is operable to display one frame of the video data being displayed at a time the first external operation is performed, the one frame being displayed on at least a part of the screen of the display unit.

8. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the read/write unit is operable to prohibit a further performance of the first external operation while writing the video data stored in the storage unit into the

external storage medium according to the first external operation.

9. The video display apparatus according to claim 8, wherein the read/write unit is operable to permit a further performance of the first external operation when the writing of the video data stored in the storage unit into the external storage medium has been completed.

10. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the read/write unit is operable to send the video data stored in the storage unit to the external storage medium using a communication method based on a prescribed copyright protection technique.

11. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the read/write unit is operable to write the video data stored in the storage unit into the external storage medium in a format based on a prescribed copyright protection technique.

12. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the read/write unit is operable to read the video data from the external storage medium using a readout mode specified by the second external operation.

13. The video display apparatus according to claim 12, wherein the display control unit is operable to display the video data read from the external storage medium in a display mode corresponding to the readout mode, the video data being displayed on at least a part of the screen of the display unit.

14. The video display apparatus according to claim 1, wherein the display control unit is operable to display on the display unit a first video based on the video data to be stored in the external storage medium and a second video based on the video data read from the external storage medium.

15. A video display method, comprising:
sequentially updating and temporarily storing video data of video being displayed on a display unit;
writing the stored video data into an external storage medium according to a first external operation;
reading the video data from the external storage medium according to a second external operation; and
displaying video on the display unit based on the video data read from the external storage medium.

16. The video display method according to claim 15, further comprising compressing the video data in a prescribed compression format prior to the step of temporarily

storing the video data.

17. The video display method according to claim 15, wherein the writing step includes sending the stored video data to the external storage medium using a communication method based on a prescribed copyright protection technique.

18. The video display method according to claim 15, wherein the writing step includes writing the stored video data into the external storage medium in a format based on a prescribed copyright protection technique.

19. The video display method according to claim 15, wherein the reading step includes reading the video data written in the external storage medium using a readout mode specified by the second external operation.

20. The video display method according to claim 15, wherein the display step includes displaying on the display unit a first video based on the video data to be stored in the external storage medium and a second video based on the video data read from the external storage medium.